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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. 9 July 1951

SUBJECT Arming of Soviet and Possibly Satellite
Merchant Ships in the Black Sea

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. The Commander of the Soviet naval base at Sevastopol ordered all Soviet freighters south of the 44th parallel on the Black Sea, whether carrying war material cargoes or not, to carry one semi-heavy anti-aircraft gun, two anti-aircraft machine guns of any type, the necessary equipment for these guns, and two anti-aircraft balloons. Ship inspection certificates dated 1 May 1951 also are required. All Soviet freighters sailing beyond the Bardanelles were ordered to communicate every six hours with certain Soviet naval bases. The order was effective 4 July 1951.
2. Informants believe, but are not certain, that the order applied to Bulgarian and Rumanian vessels also.

25X1A

The source of this report is not identical with that of [REDACTED]. However, it is possible that both reports stem ultimately from the same informant.

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 28 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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